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THE MENACE

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AROUSE PATRIOTS! MAKE IT A MILLION "FLAG DAY"

BY FREE PRESS DEFENSE LEAGUE EDITOR.

JUNE 14 IS FLAG DAY. There is no day in the calendar that means more to patriots, more to humanity, more to liberty than does the anniversary of the birth of the stars and stripes. Fashioned in an American home by the fingers of American women, who stitched their tears and their patriotism into its folds, given by these women to the soldiers who in little desperate bands withstood the armies of a foreign tyrant, the American flag brought a new dawn of liberty to the thirteen colonies and to the world.

During the century and more that it has floated over the republic, the American flag has stood for freedom, equality and justice. It has stood particularly for the freedom of the press, of the schools and of the churches. At times the nation has fallen short of its ideal in this direction, but no sooner have the people realized that their liberty was threatened than they have arisen to right their wrongs.

By a peculiar coincidence, June 14 is the day upon which the editors and publishers of THE MENACE must answer at the bar of a federal court in Joplin, Mo., to an indictment which charges obscenity, but which, if it expressed the animus of those who caused the prosecution, would read "patriotism."

June 14 is Flag Day. June 14 is the day upon which the hierarchy of Rome will attempt to use the machinery of the federal government—a government designed to foster liberty and protect its citizens in the enjoyment of the blessings of freedom—to crush the first of a long list of fearless publications which have dared, for liberty and in the name of patriotism, to tell the truth about the monarchical encroachments of Rome.

June 14 is Flag Day. Upon that day the hierarchy of Rome, doing the bidding of a foreign potentate who cloaks his deeds in the garments of religion, will make its final attempt to wipe out of existence a publication whose only crime is that it stands for those rights and privileges of American citizenship of which the flag is the beloved and visible guaranty.

Have you, patriots, who so long have battled to protect your rights and your homes against the servants of the tyrant of the Tiber, have you any doubt as to why the publishers of THE MENACE were indicted? If you have, perhaps this defiance of Rome, published under a picture of the American flag June 7, 1913, will tell you more of the reason for Rome's enmity than volumes of Jesuitical explanation:

"Flag of the free heart's only home.
By Angel hands to valor given,
Thy Stars have lit the welkin dome
And all thy hues were born in Heaven."
While we go to press, the Nation is covering the graves of the patriotic dead—a beautiful and grateful sentiment.
But to preserve and perpetuate free institutions for present and future generations requires a high order of faith, a bravery that enables a man to stand guard alone the darkest night, and a courage that glorifies the martyrs who die to make men free.

The Menace defies the attempt of organized political Rome to destroy it.
A free press is the chief corner stone of this government. The men are traitors, who, cloaked with a religious garb, with false lips praise the flag and stab the color guard in the back.
Buglers of freedom, sound the alarm! Beat the long roll!

Defenders of the flag and the foundations of government rally to the standard and do your duty.
Why does Rome, with its claims of spiritual and political submission to its pope, desire to crush THE MENACE? Let these other utterances of THE MENACE, breathing eternal love of liberty and loyalty to native land, both hateful to Rome, answer:

"With wisdom, I believe our fathers concluded to separate the state from the church, the state from religion; and, if we know what is well for us, we will see to it that the separation is forever maintained.

"Under this flag of ours, a man may worship as he pleases, or, if he is so inclined, he may not worship at all, but 'Old Glory' shall never be permitted to throw its protecting folds over the fanaticism which would re-enact among us, the horrors of the dark ages."

"Let us be patriots. When we consider how dearly our forefathers fought to establish this, the

NEWS comes as The Menace goes to press that the Motion to Quash the indictments against the editors and publishers of this newspaper has been over ruled by Judge Van Valkenburgh and that the case has been definitely set for trial in Joplin, Missouri, Flag Day, June 14.

It had been hoped by the officers of The Free Press Defense League that Judge Van Valkenburgh's ruling would come in time to permit a complete legal history of The Menace case to be given in this issue of the paper. This, however, is now impossible. In the next issue of The Menace, however, will be given a detailed account of the progress of the case up to date.

Remember that the trial is set for June 14—Flag Day. And remember what Flag Day means!

greatest of the governments, and with what terrible cost of life the heroes of the Civil War preserved our Union, can we dare wrap ourselves up in selfishness and individualism, and refuse to sacrifice the little time and money necessary to accomplish a purpose so vital to the life of our republic? Can we dare to be so cowardly, as to leave to the coming generations, the harvest of neglect—an intensified struggle for liberty, which would cost them dearly, perhaps forever fasten upon them an absolute despotism?"

"The power of religion is not in a decree on the statute books, but an enthronement in the individual heart and life. Christianity is an atmosphere, a genial climate of the soul, in which the fruits of love, joy, obedience and peace are ripened. Its power is love to God and man. Its power is the living Christ."

With this declaration of principle nailed to its masthead, with the American flag above it and loyal love of American institutions as its guiding star, THE MENACE goes to trial on Flag Day. With it goes to trial the freedom of the press in America. And with it, too, goes to trial its accuser, the hierarchy of Rome!

And with it, to sustain it and every fearless publication in the accomplishment of its mission of enlightenment and freedom, must go to court The Free Press Defense League, 1,000,000 members strong.

To Fight Fire With Fire

The enemy masses its forces before us. All that numbers, all that influence, all that money can do will be done to defeat the ends of justice. For this battle is not in the courts alone. It is as wide as the nation, as universal as human liberty.

The enemy is in battle array. Let us muster our army, 1,000,000 strong on Flag Day!

Let us with 1,000,000 men and women, imbued with the spirit of '76 that marched over scorching plains and through winter snows, hungry, ragged and ill armed, to hurl a foreign tyrant from our shores—let us with that spirit, with freedom's biggest army and greatest war fund, meet the enemy on June 14. Let us give a new meaning, a holier meaning to Flag Day. Let us make it the day upon which our dream of freedom, cherished through all these years, comes true!

Let us make it the day upon which American courage and American patriotism, once and for all, convince even "eternal Rome" that the efforts of foreign potentates and powers to subvert the spirit of American liberty are in vain!

With 1,000,000 members of the Free Press Defense League, registered on or before the fourteenth day of June, we can make complete that for which the patriots of '76 suffered, fought and died! We can make complete that dream of liberty which was given to the world with the unfurling of the first star-spangled banner.

With 1,000,000 members we can put an end to persecutions under guise of court actions, to boycott, to blackmail, the suppression of free speech by "mob law" and murder.

With 1,000,000 we can take the yoke off the neck of every patriotic office holder, the burden from the back of every patriotic business man, the gag from the mouth of every patriotic speaker and the clog of Roman oppression from the wheels of every printing press.

With 1,000,000 members we can make good our defiance of Rome, now and forever.

Workers, Awake!

Men and women on the Firing Line, awake! You who have borne the brunt of many battles are the captains in this struggle. To each and every one of you, this new army of freedom, The Free Press Defense League, must look for the holding of some strategic point in the line.

You are the captains. Marshal your forces. Call your friends together. Tell them out of the fullness of your heart the necessity which forced the organizing of this league. Get them to work gathering members. The League will furnish application and contribution blanks upon application, but you need not wait for that. Go to work in your community, enlist the friends of liberty, and with their help send the League, ten, twenty, fifty, a hundred applications and contributions!

THE TIME IS SHORT—DO IT NOW!

If each man and woman on the Firing Line would send the League ten memberships, including his own, the fight would be won.

It must be won. Neither we, nor our country nor the world can afford defeat in this battle.

Organize your friends. Realize the full responsibility of your captaincy, you on the Firing Line!

See that no patriot fails to join the League.

See that no man or woman who believes in the freedom of the press, the freedom of the public schools and the right of every man to worship or not to worship according to his conscience is overlooked. It is their right, their privilege, their duty to have part in this great work.

See to it that every man or woman who believes that Jew or Gentile, Catholic or Protestant, Christian or pagan, has equal rights under our flag, is enrolled as a member of the Free Press Defense League on or before June 14.

See to it also that Masons and Odd Fellows, members of every secret society that has felt the antagonism of Rome, realize what this battle means and have their part in it.

By all means don't overlook the patriotic organizations. This is in a peculiar sense their own fight. Be sure that they are made aware of the importance of this last battle with the arch-enemy of our liberties.

Carry the message to your churches. Let your pastor understand what this warfare means. Urge him to tell the story from the pulpit and if he will, take a collection for the League.

Do not permit the superintendent of your schools and the teachers to remain ignorant of the situation. They, too, know the hand of Rome, even as your pastor must know it, and have only to be aroused to a recognition of the dangers confronting our institutions to render most valuable service.

Let the cry ring throughout the land! Let the echoes of the marching feet of 1776 resound from Concord to San Diego, from Olympia to Jacksonville.

The "minute men" answered in 1776! Let a new generation of "minute men" and "minute women" spring to arms today!

Remember June 14! Remember what it has meant! Remember what it must mean: 1,000,000 soldiers of the common good, 1,000,000 minute men and minute women, the hurling of another foreign tyrant from his place of authority in America, the coming true of the dream that Betsy Ross and her sister patriots stitched with their tears and hopes and fears and faith into the folds of the first American flag!

League Permanent

Remember that the League is to be a permanent institution; that it is to be equipped with legal and legislative bureaus, to meet Rome upon its own ground, to wage the fight for the free press, free schools and free churches, wherever the issue may arise.

For the benefit of new readers of THE MENACE, let it be repeated that the Free Press Defense League was formed shortly after the indictment of the editors and publishers of THE MENACE for obscenity. Its first purpose is to defend the men now under indictment. Its future mission is to fight the battles of the free press, free schools, free churches whenever and wherever they are threatened. To this end, immediately after the defense of the editors and publishers of THE MENACE is concluded, a permanent organization with legislative and legal bureaus, will be completed.

As organizer and chief counsel for the League, J. I. Sheppard, of Ft. Scott, the veteran of numerous legal battles for freedom of the press and free speech, volunteered his services. Mr. Sheppard gave his services absolutely without cost, thereby surrendering a large fee. Wilbur F. Phelps, of THE MENACE, was made temporary president of the organization, he also serving without pay.

The indictment of THE MENACE returned in January, charged the publication of obscene matter. The defense of THE MENACE as outlined by the attorneys for the Free Press Defense League is that the matter published was true and that it was necessary to speak plainly in order to shock the people into a realization of the dangers of Romanism.

There are some men and some communities that can always be depended upon to rally nobly to any call for a good cause. Such communities and such men are Butler and Bloomingdale, N. J., and the men who live there.

No call has yet gone forth in the battle for the preservation of American liberties that has not met with a ready and noble response from the people of these towns.

Recently the Free Press Defense League received from one patriot a list of about forty names, with applications for membership and subscriptions amounting to more than \$40. The letter bringing this substantial support for the League brought also the cheering news that more was to follow.

The patriots of Butler and Bloomingdale have the courage of their convictions. They are awake to the struggle in which we are all involved and they insist upon having their part in it. If every

town in the country was a Butler or a Bloomingdale, this fight would have been won long ago.

In such a fight as this, no man nor set of men, can do his best without inspiration. Nor is inspiration lacking in this struggle. It breathes in every line of the hundreds of letters which come to the headquarters of the Free Press Defense League. And the inspiration is the same that sent the first American army forth to battle for its rights against a foreign foe.

The "spirit of 1776" still lives and comes to the defense of its country. Here are some of the letters that have brought renewed faith and courage to the workers at the headquarters of the Free Press Defense League:

From Wayland, Mass:

"One hundred and forty years ago today, the battle of Concord and Lexington was fought. On that day, my great grandmother was a child of about seven years of age. She told her children of remembering the exciting and heart-breaking events of that day. She remembered that the man of the family bade them goodbye, and danced before the window at the thought of going. He was killed with the captain, Isaac Davis, at the first firing at the Concord bridge. Enclosed find \$2 to help in the fight for the principles that they and others that morning gave their lives to establish."

From Ada, Okla:

"I sent you a dollar for the Free Press Defense League on the first call. I'm now sending you another for the April 19 call. I'll continue as long as the cause of freedom needs a dollar."

"My great, great grandfather had to leave Germany in 1640 or lose his life at the hands of the Romanists. He settled in Frederickburg, Maryland. My grandfather's oldest brother lost his life in the revolution, under Washington."

From Elmira, N. Y:

"Enclosed is a small contribution (\$5) from patriotic ladies of Elmira, N. Y., who wish you success in all your efforts in this great work."

From a City in Texas:

"With this I am handing you a draft for \$100, the same being my contribution to The Free Press Defense League. Will contribute more if necessary to head off the dastardly attempt of Rome to circumscribe our liberties and destroy our free institutions."

From Washington, D. C:

"Enclosed find my check for \$2.50 and application for membership for myself and my wife. Ordinarily, I abhor fighting under cover, but as I am in the government service at Washington, and have seen something of the workings of political Rome there, I ask that my name be withheld."

"I have delayed acting upon the recent invitations in The Menace to join the League until I was sure that the League was a genuine, business like organization. The prospectus or explanatory statement in The Menace for April 17 has convinced me; not only for the systematic, thorough-going, commonsense plan there outlined, but for the dignified language employed."

"Our cause is so just that 'tis shame and folly and stupidity to weaken it by borrowing Rome's tactics of abuse and scurrility. Another good point, you confine your broadsides to political Rome; show up that good and strong and you will convince many truly patriotic Romanists, instead of settling them the firmer by abusing their cherished religious beliefs."

"And here is my hand for heaving to the line of American patriotism and freedom and not confusing the issue and repelling would-be supporters in the South by ringing in a supposed analogy with a struggle of half a century ago."

From Chippewa Falls, Wis:

"Please find enclosed my check for \$4. I send two dollars each for myself and my father. He is 82 years old but is still as good a soldier for his convictions as he was in the 60's. We will come again if you need more. You do not have to withhold our names as we are free men and can fight. W. L. TILTON, "ELIJAH TILTON."

From Pittsburgh, Pa:

"Enclosed please find \$1 to help fight this most important battle which our dear country can ever have. As a citizen of the United States, I desire to thank Mr. Sheppard for the gift of his services to this cause. Everyone loving his own freedom and that of his children should enlist in this war and help swell this fund."

"It might be well later on to publish in The Menace the amount given for this cause. One million dollars ought to be very easy, since The Menace has a subscription of nearly a million and a half. Five million could and should be our aim. I intend to contribute more if necessary."

From a Small Town in Iowa:

"Enclosed find my check for \$10 to pay for ten memberships in our Free Press Defense League. Send a card to each of the names below, this contribution representing \$1 each from the ten members of our family."

From a Town in North Dakota:

"Enclosed find check for \$10 in payment for memberships for the ten names in the enclosed blank. I must say that your organization is a grand undertaking and is heartily approved by every person I have presented it to. The fight you have undertaken is in behalf of all the people and not for the special benefit of any creed or doctrine. It is as beneficial to the Catholics as to Protestants

or people of any other religious belief. It is a fight for the people. Please send me two more blanks and I'll get more contributors for the good cause. I am a very busy man but the cause is so great that I'll try to devote more of my time to it."

From Detroit, Mich:

"Enclosed please find my application for membership in the Free Press Defense League and contribution of \$1. I cannot send very much, but with God's help, I will send more later on to assist in this great fight for American liberty and the public schools. Oh I wish I could send more for this cause, but I am working for a living and helping here and there in this movement. May the grace of God be upon you and your fellow workers in this great undertaking. I shall pray for you all in your work."

From a small town in Indiana:

"I am forwarding a few names and contributions. I wish I could have done better for this noble cause, but my hours are crowded with labor. I am sure that such an organization as The Free Press Defense League is badly needed. As for The Menace, I cannot see in what way it is objectionable. This is nothing but the same old struggle between light and darkness."

"I wish you God speed in your undertaking and I congratulate The Menace. I have mailed continuously since the receipt of the latest copy, having noted the jump of 70,000 in the circulation figures."

From Golly, Okla:

"I am enclosing you \$5 for the Free Press Defense League. This is 'Lexington Day.' While this represents more than one day's wages, I feel that the cause is too great for me to fail to double my efforts in the ranks of those who toil for wages. There is no agency given us Americans with which we fight for our liberties that is greater than the free press."

From Fairfax, Va:

"I enclose my check for \$5 to aid you in the work you have undertaken. I am in my eightieth year. My father used to tell me when I was a boy that I might live to see this country in peril from the Roman hierarchy. May God help us all to fight for our liberties against this deadly enemy."

From Terra Haute, Ind:

"I would like to take the man by the hand and extend to him my hearty congratulations for promoting an organization which means so much for the common welfare of the American people. A great many people say 'Oh the Lord will take care that America doesn't come under the tyrannical hand of Rome. It is true that God's hand is in everything but we are free moral agents and it is up to us to do our part.'"

From Baker, Ore:

"I am only a woman, but I am devoted to the cause of liberty, the Bible, and free speech. I am ninety-one years and eight days old today. Hurrah for our free America. God bless the people on the Firing Line."

From Cleveland, O:

"Enclosed find \$15.50 for the Free Press Defense League, which I have collected in the factory where I am employed. Three of the contributors are Roman Catholics who believe in the freedom of the press and of the schools."

And here are expressions gleaned from the letters of other members of the League:

"I knew Theodore C. Walker forty-seven years ago and am on the Firing Line. Herewith check for \$1.50 for the defense league. Will send more as soon as I can. Am in financial straits just now but I have enlisted for this war. I know the enemy we have to fight. I am patriotic instructor in my G. A. R. Post."

"Here is my mite (\$1) now. My prayers are going up for you and yours to the Almighty God in Jesus Christ, who is able to make even this work light for you."

"Here is my check to be used in defense of the principles which have made our country what it is, the pride of the world. My parents were foreigners but I, thank God, was born an American. God speed in your great work. Stay with 'em and the REAL Americans will stay with you."

"Enclosed find money order for \$2 for the Free Press Defense League. I am an old man—ninety-one years of age—and I was an active minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ for over seventy years. I still have the same ambition for free speech, a free press and freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience."

"Am enclosing my little contribution of \$5 for the war fund. I rejoice in our good fortune in securing the able assistance of Attorney J. I. Sheppard, the hero of many a hard fought battle for justice and truth."

"I am one who does not believe that any church, no matter whether Catholic or Protestant, is capable of instituting or conducting a government consistent with the civil rights, views or welfare of the general public. Feeling that way, I regard it as a duty to connect myself with the Free Press Defense League."

(Cut out and mail this coupon with your contribution TODAY)

The Free Press Defense League Fort Scott, Kansas

WILBUR F. PHELPS, President J. I. SHEPPARD, Secretary
I hereby make application for membership in The Free Press Defense League and I enclose \$..... as my contribution for the purposes of the League.

I understand that in consideration of this contribution, I am to receive a receipt and membership card. Also that after the first year I am to have a voice in the management of the organization and in the election of officers.

Name.....

Street or Rural Route.....

Postoffice.....

State.....

(Send all contributions intended

Defense League to the

Kans. J. I. Sheppard

Menace